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INTERROGATION OF COLONAL HASHIMOTO, Kingoro,
serial 6 - #343, page 4.

"I had no knowledge of the PANAY incident until the British gunboat LADYBIRD passed by Wuhu; I shelled the LADYBIRD and took it into custody and at that time, the commanding officer of the LADYBIRD told me he was going to the assistance of the PANAY because he had gotten word that the PANAY was in trouble. This was my first knowledge of the incident."

"This was under orders from Lieutenant-General YANAGAWA. These orders read as follows: 'Nanking being in a state of seige, and it appearing that enemy troops would attempt to flee upstream, Colonel HASHIMOTO is to sink all vessels proceeding towards Nanking without regard to nationality. I believe these orders were issued two days before the fall of Nanking. * * *"